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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/434,268	11/05/1999	DERMOT TIMOTHY O'BRIEN	JA999-716	3752

7590 02/20/2004

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EXAMINER	
SINGH, RACHNA	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	8

DATE MAILED: 02/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/434,268	O'BRIEN, DERMOT TIMOTHY	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rachna Singh	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12/1/03* .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-6, 8-11 and 18-28* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-6, 8-11 and 18-28* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment A filed 12/1/03.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-11 and 18-28 are pending. Claims 7 and 12-17 were cancelled by the Amendment. Claims 22-28 were added. Claims 1, 8, 18, and 22 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-6, 8-11 and 18-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burkett et al., US Patent 6,476,828 B1, 11/5/02 (filed 5/28/99) in view of Betawar et al., US Patent 6,415,193 B1, 7/2/02 (filed 7/8/99).

In reference to AMENDED claim 1, Burkett teaches a system for building and displaying dynamic graphical user interfaces comprising the following:

- Matching a selected data group with a layout to dynamically construct a GUI by combining a data group with a layout. See column 8. Compare to ***"representing a text file as a Graphical User Interface (GUI) . . ."***
- Rendering data items from the XML file within the GUI display space. See columns 9-10 and figures 13A and 13B. A means where data within the GUI can be changed dynamically by the user. In incorporating the XML

data items within the GUI, the system is allowing users to enter information in fields and sub-fields (for attributes). See column 1 and figures 6A-6F, 13A-13B, and 15. Compare to ***". . .GUI having parameter fields, and for each parameter field, having one or more attribute sub-fields, each of said sub-fields being text editable;"***.

- Storing changes made to the XML file via the GUI. See column 4. Compare to ***"storing attribute text entered in any sub-field to a data store"***.

Applicant's amendment to the claim recites "representing said text file as a GUI having a navigator panel and an edit panel, wherein the navigator panel shows, for the text file, a structure for the parameters;" Examiner maintains that Burkett does teach "representing said text file as a GUI" as recited in the Applicant's claim. In building the Graphical User Interface, Burkett also discloses that the layout is displayed to the user and responds dynamically to user requests. See column 1, lines 20-64. Furthermore, Burkett's system does show the structure for the parameters within the GUI. See figure 13B and column 9, lines 35-50 in which the display layout of the data group is discussed. Specifically, Burkett teaches that data items are ordered within the group including data entry fields and are defined by the display layout in figure 13B.

Applicant's amendment to claim 1 further adds the limitation, "showing in the edit panel, responsive to a user selecting one of the parameters in the navigator panel: the one of the parameters in a parameter field, and one or more attribute sub-fields for the selected one of the parameters". Burkett teaches rendering data items from a XML file

in the GUI display space. The user can change the data dynamically. See column 1 and figures 6A-6F, 13A-13B, and 15. Furthermore, see column 9, lines 35-50 where Burkett teaches that contents can be altered. In figure 6D, the data items are displayed within a graphical tree and each node may be addressable and selectable by the user for editing. Burkett teaches both a panel for showing the structure for the parameters as well as a means for altering or editing the contents.

Burkett teaches a dynamic graphical user interface derived from an XML data group. He does not specifically state creating a text file of parameter meta data even though the XML data group implies a file of data; however, Betawar teaches a system for editing parameter-level information in a semiconductor-manufacturing environment. In Betawar's system, a R-DOM (recipe distributed object model) is generated for a recipe-file format that is later presented in a editor in which a user may edit various parameters. Betawar's system illustrates the idea of creating a text file of parameter meta data in his use of a DOM. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Betawar's text file creation with Burkett's dynamic GUI since both are concerned with parameter modification in a template/editor or GUI and representing parameters directly from the text file allow the sequence of parameter to be more efficiently mapped to the display and editing of the GUI. See abstract of both Betawar and Burkett. Moreover, Burkett teaches the use of a "data group" which could be interpreted as a "text file".

In reference to claim 2, Burkett teaches generating a GUI based on an XML data group. He does not specifically state "text file"; however, Betawar teaches creating a

text file from a DOM to convert the recipes. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Betawar's creation of the text file with Burkett's use of XML since an XML parser reads XML files to generate a DOM tree. See column 4 of Burkett.

In reference to claim 3, Burkett does not teach using a URI; however, Betawar teaches using a system where the text file is in a database format. Since a URI is used to specify addresses and names of objects, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize a URI in storing the text entered by the user since Betawar already teaches storing the text file in a database. See column 15, lines 30-40.

In reference to claim 4, Burkett's system teaches incorporating the data group into the GUI. See rejections for claim 1 above.

In reference to claim 5, Burkett teaches the use of Java code for carrying out the operations. See column 4, lines 54-65.

In reference to claim 6, Burkett does not teach calling a subset of a text file corresponding to a parameter; however, Betawar teaches calling a subset of a file based on user security or parameter-level security levels. Thus he teaches calling a subset based on the access-level. See abstract. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to call only a subset as taught by Betawar in the system of Burkett since both are of analogous art in dealing with editing parameters in a GUI/editor.

Claim 8 is rejected under the same rationale used in claim 1 above and further in view of the following comments. Burkett teaches that the invention may be embodied as a data processing system in the form of an entirely hardware embodiment or software embodiment or combination of the two. Thus utilizing a client/server system would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention since Burkett suggest the use of various embodiments.

Claims 9-11 are rejected under the same rationale used above in reference to claims 2-5 respectively.

Claim 18 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 1 above.

Claims 19-21 are rejected under the same rationale used above in reference to claims 2-5 respectively.

Newly added claims 22-28 are rejected under the same rationale used above in claims 1-6 and 4 respectively.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 12/1/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Burkett is concerned with *building* a graphical user interface in contrast with the present invention which is concerned with *using* a graphical user interface for parameter maintenance application in order to graphically represent information that describes parameters and to enable the user to select a parameter and modify an existing attribute or populate a vacant attribute of the selected parameter as a screen-based edit function. Applicant's independent claims in the

present invention recite "representing said text file as a GUI having a navigator panel and an edit panel, wherein the navigator panel shows, for the text file, a structure for the parameters;" Examiner maintains that Burkett does teach "representing said text file as a GUI" as recited in the Applicant's claim. In building the Graphical User Interface, Burkett also discloses that the layout is displayed to the user and responds dynamically to user requests. See column 1, lines 20-64. Furthermore, Burkett's system does show the structure for the parameters within the GUI. See figure 13B and column 9, lines 35-50 in which the display layout of the data group is discussed. Specifically, Burkett teaches that data items are ordered within the group including data entry fields and are defined by the display layout in figure 13B.

Applicant's amendment to claims 1, 8, 18, and 22 further add the limitation, "showing in the edit panel, responsive to a user selecting one of the parameters in the navigator panel: the one of the parameters in a parameter field, and one or more attribute sub-fields for the selected one of the parameters". As stated in the previous office action, Burkett teaches rendering data items from a XML file in the GUI display space. The data can be changed dynamically by the user. See column 1 and figures 6A-6F, 13A-13B, and 15. Furthermore, see column 9, lines 35-50 where Burkett teaches that contents can be altered. In figure 6D, the data items are displayed within a graphical tree and each node may be addressable and selectable by the user for editing. Burkett teaches both a panel for showing the structure for the parameters as well as a means for altering or editing the contents.

Applicant further argues that the present invention provides the advantage of editing and reloading an XML file while an application is still running, and the maintenance GUI dynamically re-generated to accommodate modifications allow new parameter values to be entered. As stated above, Burkett does teach accommodating modifications to allow new parameters to be edited and entered. See column 1 and figures 6A-6F, 13A-13B, and 15. Furthermore, see column 9, lines 35-50 where Burkett teaches that contents can be altered. In figure 6D, the data items are displayed within a graphical tree and each node may be addressable and selectable by the user for editing. Burkett teaches both a panel for showing the structure for the parameters as well as a means for altering or editing the contents.

In view of comments and rejections above, Examiner has maintained rejections.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachna Singh whose telephone number is 703.305.1952. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on 703.305.9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JOSEPH FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

RS
2/13/04